Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 01943 260625Z ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 /071 W

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R 260535Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8590

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: TH PGOV PINT

SUBJECT: THAMMASAT RECTOR HOLDS FIRST MEETING WITH STUDENTS

- 1. NEWLY-APPOINTED RECTOR OF THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY, DR PRIDI KASEMSAP, HELD A MEETING WITH STUDENTS AND FACULTY IN THE UNIVERSITY AUDITORIUM ON JANUARY 21. THE MEETING, WHICH WAS ANNOUNCED RATHER SUDDENLY, WAS THE FIRST PRIDI HAS HAD WITH STUDENTS AND FACULTY SINCE HE BECAME RECTOR FOLLOWING THE OCTOBER 6 COUP D'ETAT.
- 2. IN HIS SPEECH, WHICH LASTED ABOUT 30 MINUTES, PRIDI ASKED STUDENTS TO REMAIN CALM AND QUIET AND TO REFRAIN FROM INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. HE SAID THAT THAMMASAT WAS ALMOST DEAD ONCE, BUT IS NOW RECUPERATING AND EVERYONE SHOULD MAKE AN EFFORT TO RETRIEVE THE GOOD NAME OF THE UNIVERSITY. A PROFESSOR WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT THE SPEECH WAS QUITE DULL AND "OLD HAT", AND THAT THE STUDENTS WERE MARKEDLY UNENTHUSATIC. HE ADDED THAT THE AUDITORIUM WAS FULL, HOWEVER, AND A NUMBER OF STUDENTS HAD TO STAND OUTSIDE THE BUILDING TO HEAR WHAT WAS SAID. WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: SPEECHES, UNIVERSITIES, STUDENTS

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Subject: THAMMASAT RECTOR HOLDS FIRST MEETING WITH STUDENTS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINS, TH, (PRIDI KASEMSAP)

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